Melampus, so abundant in some bays of southern California, as at San Pedro, are absent from Oregon and Washington bays.

Echinodermata are well represented on these coasts. The sand-dollars of California we found as far north as Pacific Beach, Washington. Purple urchins were abundant at many localities, forming a beautiful sight when mingled with immense, expanded, green sea-anemones in clear, quiet tide pools. The little six-rayed starfish (*Leptasterias*) is very common under rocks. We obtained two of the twenty-rayed starfishes (*Pycnopodia*) and several other species. The starfish everywhere in evidence in great abundance and exceedingly variable in color, is *Pisaster ochraceus.* In places we saw scores of them in close contact with one another. On parts of the jetty at Newport, Oregon, one could scarcely walk over the big rocks without stepping on starfishes.

HUNTING HELICES IN CALIFORNIA

(Extracts from a letter to the Editor)

Long Beach, California,
September 11, 1927.

The first week in August I set out with my Buick and camp outfit for a three weeks' shell collecting vacation.

I went up the Coast road as far as Gaviota Pass the first afternoon; next morning went on to Morro Bay. Found half a dozen good *Helminthoglypta traski phlyctaena* Bartsch (one alive), near Las Crucis. Stayed one day for early tide at Morro, and went on to Cayucos for three more early tides. I collected land shells at three stations near Cayucos. They seem to be related to the specimens I sent you in June from Salmon Creek. I extracted some of the animals after drowning and now have them in alcohol for you, also one *H. t. phlyctaena.* This shell from around Cayucos seems to puzzle me. I have had nothing like it

before.[1] I have a good set saved for you. I found the same form at two stations on the "Old Creek" road on the ocean side of Santa Lucia mountains about four and seven miles east of Cayucos, but did not find it over the ridge on the valley side.

Leaving Cayucos I crossed the range to Paso Robles and again across the great San Joaquin valley to Visalia, thence up in the high sierras. I explored the southern edge of Sequoia Park on the south fork of the Kaweah River. Went up the old Mineral King Road to an elevation of 8,000 ft., finding very poor snail country; the only specimen in fact in my two days' stay was a single live *H. traski proles* Bartsch; rather slim picking; no trace of any other species. The country is too straight up and down to furnish very good homes for snails.

From there I went back down the mountain to 900 ft. elevation and climbed the new road to the "Giant Forest" on the north fork of the Kaweah. The reward of three days' diligent search was a very nice set of live specimens of *Helminthoglypta sequoia.* Part of them show quite a reddish cast to the shell, almost the color of the redwood bark. When this shell is taken alive and properly cleaned it is indeed a pretty species. It is very fragile and when aestivating under the bark of logs, part of the bark must be removed with a sharp knife, else the shell will be crushed in the fingers. Three days careful search through the Park turned up no trace of *Helminthoglypta traski proles* or *H. tudiculata tularensis,*—nothing but *H. sequoia.*

After these delightful days in the Park I again dropped down to the valley and tried to gain access to the King's River country, but without success. The San Joaquin Light and Power Co. has the road closed to all but their own trucks, as they have two dams and power plants under construction. Disappointed, I had to cross the ridge from Trimmer's Springs to the old Toll House Road to Hunting-

[1] It is *Helminthoglypta umbilicata cayucosensis* Pils., NAUTILUS, vol. 38, p. 104, described from specimens taken by Mr. and Mrs. Chace. It has also been collected in several localities by Mr. Morris E. Carruthers.—ED.

ton Lake, along which I had found my first *Monadenia mormonum loweana.* I turned off above Ockenden to the right and went about 15 miles over the divide to the "Dinky Creek" and meadow country, which drains into the north fork of King's River. I collected around here and one day hiked 5 miles over to the "McKinley Grove" of Sequoias, and found the same form of *mormonum* there.—This must be the extreme southern limit. I hope some time to get up in the King's River country and find just where the two species have their dividing line, or perhaps some other form in between.

Another year I hope to get started in early June before they all hide away for the dry season; there is so much country yet to be carefully explored. This form of *mormonum* is surely a corker to find alive at this season, as they all seem to bury themselves under the loose pine needles near decaying logs. One could collect 500 to 1,000 shells in Cuba to one of those Sierra forms. It is hard to make the average collector who has never collected them realize the value of these forms.

HERBERT N. LOWE.

CUBAN LAND SNAILS COLLECTED BY H. N. LOWE

BY H. A. PILSBRY

EUTROCHATELLA CHRYSOCHASMA MENDOZANA n. subsp.

The shell is about the size of *E. c. hernandezi* "Wright" Wagner, but more broadly conic; white with typically sulpher tinted summit (sometimes white), a wax yellow basal callus and dull orange lip, which is slightly expanded and in fully adult shells is thickened and built a little forward at the inner margin. Length 6.3, diam. 4.8 mm.; 7 whorls.

Type No. 141897 ANSP. Specimens also in collections of H. N. Lowe and E. E. Hand.